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EXTRACTS FROM HEARINGS BEFORE THE

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SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE'S INTERNAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

ON STATE DEPARTMENT SECURITY AND WILLIAM WIELAND

FOIAb6

Testimony of Colonel [REDACTED] USAF, 15 March 1961
(part 1, pages 9, 11)

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[REDACTED] 'My first tour in Intelligence was as the Air attaché to Italy, for approximately 3 1/2 years, from 1946 until 1950. I subsequently served with the CIA in a special capacity for nearly 3 years, from 1950 to 1953.'

"Mr. Sourwine. 'In what area?' Can you tell, sir?'

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[REDACTED] 'Well, I was working in a covert intelligence area. You mean geographically?'

"Mr. Sourwine. 'Yes.'

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[REDACTED] 'In the Mediterranean and North Africa.'

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[REDACTED] 'I remember (August 1959) we all reacted very, very strongly to this statement and challenged Mr. Wieland to support his contention that there was no communism when we knew that there were hundreds of reports that proved there was communism. In reply to me in particular, Mr. Wieland said he saw more intelligence reports than I did, therefore he had certainly a broader grasp of the situation than we who were limited in our view to Mexico. We pointed out that we saw a great many reports other than those originated in Mexico from various intelligence sources, including the FBI, CIA, the military, as well as the State Department. And that without exception, all reports from our Embassy pointed to one thing, and that was very positive evidence that Castro and the leading elements of his government were Communists. We also pointed to the fact that these reports were available much before Castro came to power. I recall asking Mr. Wieland how he could say Fidel Castro was not a Communist when we had evidence that he was a leader of the Bogotases in Colombia. He said that was a report from a limited source and had never been substantiated by any other reports.'

'Our conversation went along this line, where we were taking the tack that Cuba, the leading elements of Fidel's government were Communists, were known to be Communists before they came into power; whereas Mr. Wieland appeared to me, in my opinion, to be defending the regime as not being Communist.'

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[REDACTED] testimony above was later quoted by Mr. Sourwine on 2 February 1962, part 5, page 620).